

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 347
By Beavers

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Erika Jo Heriges on winning the
2005 *Nashville Star* competition.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as entertainers of whom we have all grown fond and whose music has heightened our aesthetic sensitivity and appreciation; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy entertainer is Erika Jo Heriges, who recently won the 2005 *Nashville Star* competition; and

WHEREAS, the youngest contestant ever to compete on *Nashville Star*, Erika Jo Heriges quickly became the crowd's favorite by astonishing and amazing audiences with her soaring vocals and charismatic stage-presence; and

WHEREAS, besting tough and talented competition, Miss Heriges performed her debut single *I Break Things* during the *Nashville Star* finale; she will be releasing her debut album in June on Universal South Records; and

WHEREAS, Erika Jo Heriges, at age eighteen, is both the youngest person and the first female ever to win the *Nashville Star* title; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to national television, Erika Jo Heriges has appeared on several network programs, including *The Crook and Chase Show*, *Prime Time Country*, and *True Value Country Showdown*; and

WHEREAS, traveling across the South and Midwest performing with her father's five-piece country band, Erika Jo Heriges has been thrilled to perform at the world famous Grand Ole Opry House; she has also performed at many other events and has sung the national anthem at Kentucky Wildcats and Vanderbilt Commodores basketball games; and

WHEREAS, a senior at Wilson Central High School, Miss Heriges won the *Nashville Star* title the week after her high school prom; in the upcoming months, she will be juggling high school finals, graduation, and her debut album; and

WHEREAS, evincing amazing musical talent, Erika Jo Heriges epitomizes the passion, spirit, and perseverance that are characteristic of all great singers; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Erika Jo Heriges for her remarkable abilities as a musician and vocalist and her dedication to excellence and creativity in entertainment; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we congratulate Erika Jo Heriges upon being named the winner of the 2005 *Nashville Star* competition and extend to her our best wishes for her continued success in the music industry.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.